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Item 42 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 1 July 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of a statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, dated 30 June 1993, regarding the debate held in the Security Council on 29 June 1993 on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 42 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tahsin BURCUOĞLU
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

Annex

Statement dated 30 June 1993 of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Turkey on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The draft resolution tabled by the non-aligned members of the Security Council yesterday, exempting the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina from the arms embargo and enabling that country to exercise the right provided by the Charter of the United Nations to defend itself against aggression, was not adopted, having received only six votes in favour and nine abstentions.

Turkey regrets that result, but considers the positive vote of the United States of America, one of the five permanent members of the Council, as an encouraging development.

It is known that the General Assembly favours the lifting of the arms embargo on Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the World Conference on Human Rights held recently at Vienna appealed to the Security Council to end the genocide taking place in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We understand from yesterday's debate that those members of the Council who abstained in the vote are not totally insensitive to the growing indignation of the world public opinion over this issue. Nevertheless, since procedurally, in this instance, an abstention implied a vote against, they have been instrumental in preventing Bosnia and Herzegovina, a Member State of the United Nations, from exercising its right to self-defence.

We draw the attention of the international community to the fact that the continued imposition of the arms embargo on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a country struggling to maintain its very existence against an aggressor extensively superior in arms and equipment, carries with it the responsibility for the daily loss of innocent lives there.

Turkey, once again calls upon the international community to take action to lift the unjust arms embargo imposed on Bosnia and Herzegovina. Turkey shall pursue its efforts in this direction with determination.